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Date: September 21, 2001

By: Kay L. Gaviglio

**PATENT**  
**Docket No. GC527C3**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of	)	
	)	
Estell et al.	)	Group Art Unit: 1645
	)	
Serial No.: 09/768,080	)	Examiner: Unassigned
	)	
Filed: January 23, 2001	)	
	)	
For: Proteins Producing an Altered	)	
Immunogenic Response and	)	
Methods of Making and Using	)	
the Same	)	

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**SUPPLEMENTAL PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to considering the above-identified application on the merits, please enter the following supplemental preliminary amendment to the specification.

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please cancel without prejudice claims 1 - 6 and 11 - 13, amend claims 7 and 8, and add new claims 14 - 27. Applicants explicitly reserve the right to pursue claims of equivalent, greater or lesser scope to those canceled by this amendment in a later filed application. A marked-up version of each amended claim is appended hereto along with a clean set of the claims.

7.(Once amended) A variant of a polypeptide of interest comprising a T-cell epitope, wherein said variant differs from said polypeptide of interest by having an altered T-cell epitope such that said variant and said polypeptide produce a different immunogenic response in a individual, wherein said T-cell epitope is altered by having at least one amino acid substitution.